(c) if so, whether Government intends to evolve any effective system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) No study has been conducted regarding impact of increased commercial activities on the pattern of corruption in the country. Several steps have, however, been initiated to remove corruption and to improve functioning of Government important among these steps are:-

(a) Enactment of Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003;

(b) Introduction of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(c) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;

(d) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance;

(e) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC; and

(f) Issue of instructions by the CVC asking the organization to adopt integrity pact in major Government procurement activities.

Responsibilities of intelligence agencies

718. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the responsibilities entrusted on RAW, CBI, Financial Intelligence and IB and their aims and objects, each separately;

(b) the reasons for the CBI being misused to probe murder and even stealing cases when it is primarily entrusted to detect corruption; and

(c) whether the failure of CBI in most of the cases indicate that the CBI is unfit to do the jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) CBI apart from being an anti-corruption investigation agency is also a multi-faceted, multi-disciplinary central police law enforcement agency. In addition to investigating offences notified by the Central Government under Section 3 of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946, the CBI also takes up cases having inter-State and/or international ramifications or on request by the State Governments or directions of the Constitutional Courts and has the legal mandate to investigate and prosecute such offences.

Financial Intelligence Unit was set up to coordinate and strengthen collection and sharing of financial intelligence to combat money laundering and related crimes. It has been mandated to coordinate and support such efforts of national and international intelligence investigation and enforcement agencies in pursuing global efforts against crimes. Its main functions are intelligence and relationship management, policy review and development.

Information relating to RAW and IB can not be divulged as it is not in public interest to give more details.

(b) It is the core responsibility of Special Crimes Division of the CBI to investigate cases of conventional nature entrusted by Courts/Government. CBI has an exclusive Division *i.e.* Anti Corruption Division to investigate cases relating to corruption.

(c) The rate of conviction in cases investigated by the CBI has been consistently above 65%. CBI enjoys the thrust and confidence of public, judiciary and the Government and has been playing pivotal role in investigation of important cases. The Constitutional Courts have in the last three years entrusted 512 cases for investigation.

Census for BPL population

719. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of census or other exercises, if any, carried out last at the behest of the Planning Commission or any other agency of Government with a view to determine the volume of population living Below Poverty Line (BPL);

(b) the details of the parameters relied upon for ascertaining BPL category;

(c) whether Government is contemplating revision of the said parameters, keeping in view the consistently higher rate of inflations in foodgrains and other essential commodities especially with a view to ascertaining the volume of BPL population, realistically;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The National Sample Organization (NSSO) periodically conducts nationwide survey of consumption expenditure. Based on this data, the Planning Commission estimates the percentage and number of people living below poverty line (BPL) at the State and national level, separately in rural and urban areas. The latest estimate of poverty is available for the year 2004-05, based on large sample survey of consumer expenditure of the NSSO collected in its 61st round (July, 2004 to June 2005). Using poverty line defined in terms of monthly per capita consumption expenditure of Rs. 356.30 for rural areas and Rs. 538.60 for urban areas, the percentage and total number of BPL persons has been estimated.

(c) and (d) The Planning Commission in December 2005 constituted an Expert Group to review the methodology for estimation of poverty under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh Tendulkar. The terms of reference of the Expert Group include review of alternative conceptualizations of poverty, and the associated technical aspects of procedures of measurement and data base for empirical estimation including procedures for updating over time and across States, and in the light of this, to recommend any changes in the existing procedures of official estimates of poverty.

The poverty lines which are used to estimate the number of people living below the poverty line are periodically updated to take into account the price inflation of food grains and other essential commodities.

(e) Does not arise.

Integrated energy policy

720. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has called a meeting of the full Planning Commission recently to discuss the integrated energy policy and deliberate on the country's nuclear energy programme;